

Message Text

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11

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 SS-15 USIA-06 ABF-01 /037 W

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R 020110Z OCT 75

FM AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3003

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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PLEASE PASS DEPUTY UNDERSECRETARY EAGLEBURGER

EA/EX FOR SCARRIT

E O 11652 NA

TAGS ASEC, AS

SUBJ: SECURITY-CONSULATE GENERAL MELBOURNE

REFS: A) STATE 224548; B) CANBERRA 6287; C) MELBOURNE 1416;
D) MELBOURNE'S OM DATED SEPT 2, 1975

1. I VERY MUCH APPRECIATE CANBERRA'S SUGGESTIONS REGARD-
ING IMPROVED SECURITY PROTECTION AT POST AND THE DEPT'S
PROMPT AND HELPFUL RESPONSE (REFS A AND B). WE ARE
CURRENTLY SEEKING ESTIMATES ON NECESSARY WORK.

2. HOWEVER I EMPHASIZE THAT THE BUILDING OF WALLS, ETC
AROUND THE RECEPTIONIST/SWITCHBOARD ON THE 8TH FLOOR AS
OUTLINED IN REFS A AND B WILL BE INEFFECTIVE UNTIL SUCH
TIME AS THE CONSULAR SECTION HAS ALSO BEEN MOVED FROM
THE 9TH FLOOR TO THE 8TH. (SEE MY PREVIOUS MESSAGE,
MELBOURNE 1416 TO DEPUTY UNDERSECRETARY EAGLEBURGER.)

SINCE THE CONSULAR SECTION HANDLES 150-200 VISITORS A
DAY, MOVING JUST THE SWITCHBOARD/RECEPTIONIST TO THE
8TH FLOOR WILL NOT LIMIT PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE 9TH
FLOOR. AS LONG AS THE CONSULAR SECTION IS ON THE 9TH
FLOOR WE WILL EITHER HAVE TO HAVE SEPARATE RECEPTIONISTS
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ON BOTH FLOORS TO RECEIVE THE PUBLIC, OR SONCULAR

SECTION VISITORS WILL HAVE TO STOP AT BOTH THE 8TH AND 9TH. LATTER WILL BE VERY HARD TO CONTROL. IN EITHER CASE WE CANNOT STOP THE ELEVATORS AT THE 8TH FLOOR AS LONG AS THE PUBLIC MUST GO TO THE 9TH FLOOR.

3. DURING JULY AND AUGUST ALL OF US IN MELBOURNE WORKED TOGETHER IN A COORDINATED EFFORT AND DREW UP THE PLANS FORWARDED WITH REF D AND OUTLINED IN REF C. FUNDING ESTIMATES WERE OBTAINED ON BASIS THOSE PLANS. CANBERRA SENT PROPOSALS FOR USIS SHARE OF FUNDING TO USIA WASHINGTON IN AUGUST. LIAISON OFFICE MELBOURNE FORWARDED DATA ON THEIR PROPOSED SHARE OF FUNDING TO CANBERRA ON JULY 9.

4. WE WILL REMAIN EXTREMELY VULNERABLE AT THIS TIME OF MAXIMUM THREAT UNTIL STATE, USIS AND OTHER INVOLVED USG AGENCIES ARE ABLE TO REACH A DECISION IN WASHINGTON ON HOW TO PROVIDE A COORDINATED FUNDING SOLUTION TO THIS URGENT SECURITY PROBLEM. WE MUST ACT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO PERMIT CONGEN TO RESTRICT PUBLIC ACCESS TO 9TH FLOOR WHERE OUR SENSITIVE AREAS ARE LOCATED AND TO CONCENTRATE GENERAL PUBLIC ON 8TH FLOOR, SO THAT 8TH FLOOR MASONRY WALLS, BULLET-PROOF GLASS, ETC. APPROVED REF B CAN BE EFFECTIVE SHIELD. THEREFORE WE MUST MOVE CONSULAR SECTION ASAP AND WE NEED URGENTLY WASHINGTON APPROVAL OF FUNDING FOR OUR PLANS TRANSMITTED IN REFS C AND D AS SHARED ADMINISTRATIVE COST FOR THIS URGENT SECURITY IMPROVEMENT.

5. RSO CANBERRA CONCURS.
BRAND

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